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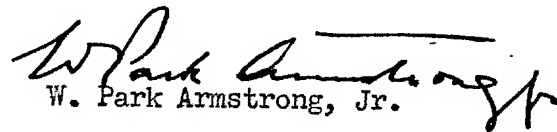
May 29, 1951

Dear General Smith:

On behalf of the Psychological Operations Coordinating Board, the Department requests that CIA undertake a National Intelligence Estimate as laid out in the attached memorandum of May 23 from Mr. Barrett to myself. We appreciate that the basic subject matter lies predominantly within our own field of responsibility and we shall, of course, be glad to cooperate to the fullest in this project. We feel, however, that in a subject of such basic importance the most complete view of Intelligence opinion should be made available and that this can be achieved effectively only through the procedure of a National Intelligence Estimate. We have, I think, always agreed that a National Intelligence Estimate is justified either by the inter-departmental nature of its substance or by the importance and inter-departmental implications of the problem. This will, I believe, be the first proposal under the second criterion.

I hope very much that CIA will be able to undertake this project as a matter of considerable urgency.

Sincerely yours,


W. Park Armstrong, Jr.

Att.

Lieutenant General Walter B. Smith,
Director of Central Intelligence,
Washington.

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